



Who can join?

Individuals who are interested in health information and want to learn more about the services available through MEDLINEplus.gov. This includes:

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Benefits of Membership

- Access to a wide range of health information resources.
- Ability to receive personalized health information.
- Ability to receive personalized health information.

Join a Free Health Information Network

Complete the form and return it to:

Public Library System

and best of all, it's FREE

"Information is Your Best Medicine"
Michael E. DeBakey, M.D.

MEDLINEplus.gov

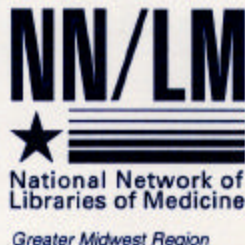
...online for you and your family's health

A SERVICE OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

NN/LM

For more information, visit www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

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National Network of Libraries of Medicine
Greater Midwest Region

The University of Illinois at Chicago
Library of the Health Sciences (M/C 763)
1750 West Polk Street
Chicago, Illinois 60612-7223

gmr@uic.edu
(800) 338-7657 in region
(312) 996-2464
(312) 996-2226 fax
www.nlm.nih.gov/gmr/

Dear Library Director:

The public is increasingly seeking online health information. In the latest report from the Pew Internet & American Life Project, an Internet research team, more than 4 in 10 health seekers (41%) say that the material they found during their last online search affected their decisions about whether they should go to the doctor, how to treat an illness, or how to question their physician.

Public librarians across the country are seeing a continuous growth in the already high number of requests for health information from their patrons. Reference librarians are receiving inquiries about alternative medicine, selecting a physician, wellness issues, or particular diseases or conditions. Patrons are also seeking free, quality, electronic health information written in lay terminology.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest medical library, would like to help you respond to this demand. NLM is a government agency and is located on the campus of the National Institutes of Health.

The National Library of Medicine's MEDLINEplus, a health resource, is accessible to all. MEDLINEplus offers the layperson authoritative, up-to-date, and totally private health information. Health topics, drug information, a medical encyclopedia, MEDLINE searches, clinical trials, and current news are just some of the features included at <http://medlineplus.gov/>.

The National Library of Medicine encourages public libraries to join the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Greater Midwest Region (GMR). Membership is free and offers public libraries the following advantages:

- Opportunities for continuing professional development by taking training workshops to search the National Library of Medicine's databases. GMR staff will travel to your institution for personalized hands-on training.
- Participate in funding opportunities for your library. The GMR provides consulting service for any institution. The GMR staff will provide recommendations on improvements of your proposal.
- Receive special mailings of National Library of Medicine's posters, brochures, and other informational materials.
- Receive support services by partnering with a health sciences library.

The National Library of Medicine encourages public libraries to join the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Please review the enclosed documents, which provide more information about the Network and MEDLINEplus posters for your library. If you would like to join the Network, please return the affiliate membership registration form. If you have any questions, call us at 1-800-338-7657.

Sincerely,

Susan Jacobson
Director

Attachments

Benefits of Membership



The Network provides opportunities for professional development by offering **training workshops** that teach

needed techniques for searching the National Library of Medicine's databases. All workshops are free and can be focused for the needs of health professionals, librarians or consumers.

Members can use the GMR Lending Library to

borrow professional material

for a self-directed approach to continuing education. The GMR staff maintains a collection of books, audiotapes & videos focused on librarianship in consumer health & the health sciences.



The GMR offers network members opportunities to **apply for funding** for their libraries. Funds obtained through the GMR are used to expand the services of network libraries. You can find a detailed list of the available funding opportunities on the GMR website.



...and best of all, it's

FREE

Who can join?

A **Full Member** can be any health sciences library or health-related Information Center, institution, or organization that:

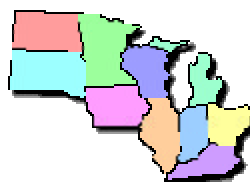
- (1) is regularly staffed;
- (2) has an Internet connection;
- (3) has its own collection of health sciences materials (books, journals, audiovisuals, electronic databases);
- (4) provides information services to health professionals and/or the general public.

"Information services" must include DOCLINE® participation, and should include the following:

- Answering or referring reference questions;
- Performing information searches.

Members are encouraged to provide Loansome Doc® service to their own users and/or to unaffiliated users.

An **Affiliate Member** is any library, information/resource center or organization that is called on for health information by its users. An Affiliate Member might form a cooperative relationship with a Full Member, for reference assistance or document delivery.



NN/LM
GREATER MIDWEST REGION

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NN/LM
GREATER MIDWEST REGION

Join a free health information Network

*Connecting People to
Quality Health Information*



1.800.338.7657

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The **National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM)**, the first comprehensive national library network, began in 1967. Under the leadership of the **National Library of Medicine** and through the participation of medical libraries and other information resources throughout the nation, it has developed into a well organized and effective network for meeting the information needs of the nation's health professionals and the general public.

The mission of the **National Network of Libraries of Medicine** is to advance the progress of medicine and improve the public health by providing all U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information and improving the public's access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health.

The National Library of Medicine funds eight regional medical library programs nationwide. The University of Illinois at Chicago Library of the Health Sciences serves as the Regional Medical Library for the Greater Midwest Region, a network of health science libraries, information centers and public libraries in the Midwest.

To join the network or learn more about us call toll-free 1.800.338.7657 or visit us on the Internet

National Library of Medicine
<http://nlm.nih.gov>

National Network of Libraries of Medicine
<http://nnlm.gov>

NN/LM Greater Midwest Region
<http://nnlm.gov/gmr>

Advantages of Membership

- Access interlibrary loan services available to members.
- Receive special mailings of National Library of Medicine's posters, brochures, and other informational materials.
- Be invited to serve on the Regional Medical Library's Regional Advisory Committee.
- Receive a certificate, which names your institution as a member of the NN/LM.
- Be invited, on a periodic basis, to provide input to the Regional Medical Library on its programs and services.
- Access to *E-Sources* the GMR's online newsletter.
- Subscribe to GMRLIST, the Greater Midwest Region's electronic discussion list, to receive timely announcements from the GMR & NLM.

In joining the network each member must

- Designate a local contact person
- Agree to be listed in regional directory
- Provide basic information on collections and services

<http://nnlm.gov/members/>



Membership Application

Institution Name

Department/Library Name

Address

County, Congressional District

City, State, ZIP

Contact Person

Title

Phone Number

Fax Number

Email

Complete the above application and mail, fax or email the information to:

**NN/LM
GREATER MIDWEST REGION**

University of Illinois at Chicago
Library of the Health Sciences
1750 West Polk, M/C 763

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